

Needham Human Rights Committee Minutes

April 17,2014 7:30PM

Broadmeadow School Conference Room

Recorder: Abdul Cader

**Present: Marlene Schultz, Amelia Klein, Cynthia Ganung, Ashok Mehta, Mike Vaughn,
Abdul CaderAsmal**

- 1. Minutes of the March 20,2014 meeting were approved**
- 2. Old Business:**

CREATED EQUAL:

Library viewing of the films and discussions around them on the subject of 'Created Equal'; the overall impression was that despite the educational importance of the films and the ensuing discussions, the public turnout was disappointing.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

After reviewing the differences in the status between 'committees' and 'commissions', the membership reinforced the need to increase the size of the NHRC to its full complement. With this in mind Amelia and Marlene will pursue their leads with Deborah at the Needham Housing Authority, and with Ms. Jenny Gao, president of the Chinese Friends of Needham.

WEBPAGE:

Ashok reviewed the websites of some of the neighboring towns and cities in order to design a format that would meet Needham's needs. It was decided that bios of the members might not be appropriate, but a group photo with a list of all serving members would be informative. Ashok will review the finalization with Amelia and Marlene.

- 3. Reports:**

DIVERSITY SUMMIT – date has been chosen to be Sat October 18 at Pollard School

MEETING WITH NEEDHAM TIMES-a very productive meeting was held in the Needham Public Library under the auspices of the Needham Times with presentations by key contacts, how to submit and deadlines:

Key contacts:

ValentinaZic, Editor, 781-433-8366 vzic@wickedlocal.com

Jesse Floyd, editor in Chief, jfloyd@wickedlocal.com

Wayne Braverman, Managing Editor, wbraverman@wickedlocal.com

Wei-Huan Chen, reporter,wchen@wickedlocal.com

Deadlines:

Press Releases and calendar entries: Thursday at 5pm for the following Thursday

Letters: Monday at 9AM for that weeks edition

'Your News' and announcements: may take several weeks to appear based on space

How to submit :

Email preferred needham@wickedlocal.com ; for sports twilcox@wickedlocal.com

Fax 781 433 8202

Mail Needham Times, 254 Second Avenue, Needham MA 02494.

DOMESTIC WORKERS BILL OF RIGHTS:(SB882 and HB3984). There is a well-organized coalition of groups spearheading the effort to have it passed in the Legislature. A powerful letter in support of the passage of the Bill was a letter by Mr. J Power reinforcing the need to assure the basic human rights of those most vulnerable.

COURSE ON INTERFAITH DIALOGUES: Developed by Hebrew College and Andover Newton Theological Seminary will feature discussions on Judaism, Christianity and Islam. They will be held at Temple Aliyah on May 6, 12,20, and 27 between 7.30 and 9pm.

4. New Business:

ARTICLE Olly has agreed to write an article for the Needham Times outlining the work of the NHRC

PRESENTATIONS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS Committee members who attend an event related to HR are encouraged to give a brief report at meetings to enhance our awareness of HR issues and populations. Amelia shared info about a Children's Defense Fund presentation.

NEXT MEETINGS MAY 15, 2014 Recorder Mike

JUNE 19, 2014